



Howard County Police Department (HCPD) Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) Member Meeting

Minutes
September 22, 2021

Opened: 7:00p
Closed: 8:37p
Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Susan Watkins, Chair, HCPD CAC, presiding, brought the meeting to order at 7:02p.

Welcome/Chair Announcements

- The Chair welcomed the members and HCPD personnel.

Roll Call

- The roll was observed; the Secretary noted a quorum.

Member Roll Call:

	CAC Member		CAC Member		CAC Member
✓	Larry Aaronson (E)	✓	Eileen Harrity		Tim Pierce
	Steve Bolen		Linda Lee Hickerson	✓	Paul Rivers
	William Brockett		Jacquelyn Hopkins		Lewis Saunders
	Denise Brockington		Monique Jenkins	✓	Sami Saydjari
✓	Larry Buehler	✓	Jeff Kulik		Raghid Shourbaji
✓	Sandy Cederbaum	✓	Morris Levine	✓	Susan Watkins
	Paul Edwards	✓	Keith McGuire	✓	Camela Williams
✓	Lesley Flaim	✓	Adia Moore		Nollie Wood
✓	Britany Geger	✓	PeteR Newman	✓	Dave Zeleznik
✓	Andrew Hall	✓	Chandrakant Patel		Jean Xu
✓	Jim Happel	✓	Steve Pidliskey		

(E) Denotes Emeritus Status

- Applicants in Attendance: None.
- HCPD in Attendance: Lt. Adrienne Thomas (CAC Advisor) and Lt. Ed Sprinkle
- Special Guest(s)/Presentation: [LEAD Program](#); Lt. Thomas.



- Other Guests in Attendance: None.

Chair Remarks/Announcements

- The Chair announced that the meeting was being recorded.
- There was a good turnout at the Police Pace on September 12. She thanked Members Bolen and Harrity for volunteering to work at the CAC table. One person came by and expressed interest in joining the CAC. The person was invited to attend the meeting tonight but was not in attendance.
- The Chair will make arrangements with Lt. Thomas and Members Edwards, Geger, Harrity, Hickerson, Morris, Saydjari, Rivers, and Zeleznik to pick up their sweatshirts and polo shirts.
- Applicant Monique Jenkins will be inducted into the CAC at the next meeting.

July Minutes and Chief's Report

- The Chair asked the members if they received the July meeting minutes and Chief's Report. All members indicated that they had received the documents. (There was no CAC member meeting in August.)
- She asked if anyone had any comments or questions about any of the documents. No comments were heard.

Chief's Remarks

- The Chair invited Lt. Thomas to give the Chief's Report.
- On October 4, the County Council will vote on releasing funds for the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Program. If funding is released, the Department will begin planning and implementing the Program on October 5. The Department intends to outfit 300 officers with cameras initially and will stand up a BWC committee. The Department expects to have BWCs in the field by January 2022.
- Once a launch date is set, the Department will give the CAC a demonstration of the BWC Program.
- On October 1, the Maryland Attorney General and Maryland State Police will investigate police officer-involved shootings and custody deaths. Until October 1, investigations are handled by local State's Attorney's offices, Internal Affairs, or another police department.
- The Department will be conducting outreach activities soon.

Presentation

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program

- LEAD's objective is to divert people whose problems are driven by behavioral illnesses from the justice system whenever possible and into long-term, non-coercive case management.
- Law enforcement officers are the primary portal for diversion in partnership with case management, service providers, prosecutors, community leaders, and health agencies.



- Member Rivers asked if the LEAD Program would be available to persons with mental illness. Lt. Thomas said that people with mental health issues would be accepted into the program. She added that officers also undergo Crisis Intervention Training (CIT).
- Member Bolen asked if the LEAD Program would be available to persons with cognitive development issues, such as people on the autism spectrum. The Lt. said that the Program would accept those persons into the program.
- Member Rivers asked if there was a program to help persons who are forced into prostitution; he asked if they were arrested or treated as victims. Lt. Thomas said that the County did have programs to help persons involved in prostitution and also to help combat human trafficking.
- Member Newman asked if placement into the LEAD Program could harm a person's employment or background investigation. Lt. Thomas said that persons enrolled in the program were treated under the same guidelines as HIPAA.
- Member Newman asked if the Department was tracking persons in the program. Lt. Thomas said that three people were enrolled in the first two weeks of the Program.
- Member Moore asked if this was a pilot program, how long the program would last, and if there was a limit on the number of people that could be enrolled. Lt. Thomas said that this is a pilot program and would last one year and then come under review. Although there is technically no limit, the Howard County Department of Health is managing persons in the program, and they are currently limited to enrolling three people per day. However, as soon as arrangements can be made with a third party to manage the Program, enrollment will be increased.
- Member Williams asked how the County would measure success? What were the metrics? Lt. Thomas presented an evaluation performed by the University of Washington for a Seattle-based program that showed reductions in arrests and felony charges compared to those in a control group.

Discussion on Bylaws

- The Chair asked the members if everyone had received the Bylaws prior to the meeting. All members indicated that they had received the Bylaws.
- The Chair asked Members Cederbaum, Moore, and Saydjari to read their suggested wording for Article III (Membership), Section J ("Character Clause"). The Chair thanked the Members for their input and help writing this section. The Chair then opened the floor for discussion.
- The members liked the simplicity of Member Moore's write-up.
- Member Cederbaum asked what the CAC Mission Statement is and where we could find it.
- Member Williams thought we should link our conduct to the Mission Statement.
- Member Williams suggested the CAC choose the write-up that best meets our criteria and start with that one to refine further.
- Members Flaim, Harrity, and Hall liked Member Cederbaum's write-up. These members and many of the members - including Member Kulik, also liked the ideas and components expressed



in Member Saydjari's write-up. In addition, members thought that someone could disagree with HCPD policy without conflicting with Section J.

- Member Hall appreciated Member Cederbaum's inclusion of a conflict of interest clause.
- Members discussed what might constitute a conflict of interest. Member Happel suggested that members should avoid a direct conflict of interest and the appearance of a conflict of interest. Member Flaim discussed whether the conflict of interest clause should be narrowly defined or be broad. Member Hall suggested that it would be challenging to capture all possible conflict of interest issues, and it should be somewhat broad.
- Member Cederbaum asked if a conflict of interest should hold only for the Department or include the Department and the County.
- Members suggested that it should include the Department and its "affiliates."
- Member Williams asked if we needed a character clause and a conflict of interest clause. Member Buehler thought we needed both.
- Member Patel asked who could initiate a complaint and what was the process for filing a complaint. Most members agreed that anyone could file a complaint - a member or HCPD officers/personnel. A person should bring a complaint to the Executive Board for review and investigation. Most members thought the Executive Board should decide by majority vote on recommended actions to provide to the Chief. Members also agreed that the Chief should have the final decision on actions taken.
- Member Moore thought that Section J should be a stand-alone Article that discusses infractions, the process for reporting, reviewing, and investigating infractions, and for making final decisions on recommendations for actions. She thought this was too much to put into one paragraph.
- Member Buehler asked that the Bylaws be reviewed as he thought it reflected that the Executive Board must be in unanimous agreement with its recommendations to the Chief. The Chair said that she would review the document and amend it to reflect that only a majority of the Executive Board needs to be in agreement in its recommendation of an action.

Lt. Sprinkle Retirement Gift

- On behalf of the Citizens' Advisor Council, the Chair thanked Lt. Ed Sprinkle for his many years of honorable service to the police department and to the county.
- The Chair presented Lt. Sprinkle with a retirement gift: a gladiator's sword.
- The inscription on the sword read "Lt. Edward Sprinkle" on the upper part of the blade, and "You have served and protected for many years. Thank you for your years of dedicated service to the HCPD Citizens' Advisory Council, and congratulations on your retirement," on the lower part of the blade.
- The CAC also presented Lt. Sprinkle with a video card with several members recording short videos wishing him well in his retirement.



Adjournment

- The Chair thanked the Members for their discussion on the Bylaws.
- The Chair asked if anyone had any other business to discuss. Hearing none, she closed the meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:37p.

The Howard County Police Department, Citizens' Advisory Council stands in adjournment until
October 20, 2021 at 7:00p.

Minutes taken by Steven Bolen, Secretary.

Susan Watkins
Chair (*Presiding*)

David Zeleznik
Vice-Chair

Eileen Harrity
Member-at-Large

Andrew Hall
Immediate Past Chair